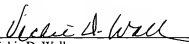


PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office on May 22, 2007 at or before 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time under the Rules of 37 CFR § 1.8.


Vickie D. Wall

Applicant : Marinus L.W. Van de Sande Confirmation No. 8999
Application No. : 10/533,348
Filed : April 29, 2005
Title : DEVICE FOR ARRANGING AT LEAST TWO BANDS AROUND ONE
OR MORE PACKETS (as amended)

Grp./Div. : 3651
Examiner : Lindsay M. Low

Docket No. : 54950/A394

LETTER TO CORRECT FILING RECEIPT

Office of Initial Patent Examination's
Filing Receipt Corrections
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Post Office Box 7068
Pasadena, CA 91109-7068
May 22, 2007

Commissioner:

When proofing the Filing Receipt for the above-identified application, we located the following error:

In the Title:

Please delete "packet" and insert -- PACKETS -- as requested in our Letter to Correct Filing Receipt dated January 3, 2007 and our Preliminary Amendment filed on April 29, 2005 (copies enclosed). A copy of the Filing Receipt is also enclosed indicating the necessary correction.

Application No. 10/533,348

Please forward a Corrected Filing Receipt to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

Handwritten signature of D. Bruce Prout in cursive script.

By _____
D. Bruce Prout
Reg. No. 20,958
626/795-9900

DBP/vdw

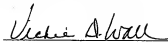
Enclosure: Copy of Filing Receipt

VDW PAS738496.1-* -05/22/07 10:33 AM

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 3, 2007.


Vickie D. Wall

Applicant : Marinus L.W. Van de Sande Confirmation No. 8999
Application No. : 10/533,348
Filed : April 29, 2005
Title : DEVICE FOR ARRANGING AT LEAST TWO BANDS AROUND ONE
OR MORE PACKETS (as amended)

Grp./Div. : 3651
Examiner : Lindsay M. Low

Docket No. : 54950/A394

LETTER TO CORRECT FILING RECEIPT

Office of Initial Patent Examination's
Filing Receipt Corrections
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Post Office Box 7068
Pasadena, CA 91109-7068
January 3, 2007

Commissioner:

When proofing the Filing Receipt for the above-identified application, we located the following error:

In the Title:

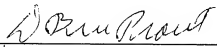
Please delete the title and insert -- DEVICE FOR ARRANGING AT LEAST TWO BANDS AROUND ONE OR MORE PACKETS -- as evidenced by the enclosed copy of the Preliminary Amendment filed on April 29, 2005. A copy of the Filing Receipt is enclosed indicating the necessary corrections.

Application No. 10/533,348

Please forward a Corrected Filing Receipt to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By 
D. Bruce Prout
Reg. No. 20,958
626/795-9900

DBP/vdw

Enclosure: Copy of Filing Receipt

VDW PAS717164.1-*01/3/07 11:48 AM

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXPRESS MAIL NO. EV351242083US

Appl No. : N/A
Applicant : Marinus Lambertus Wilhelmus van de Sande
Filed : April 29, 2005
Title : DEVICE FOR ARRANGING AT LEAST TWO BANDS AROUND ONE
OR MORE PACKETS (AS AMENDED)

TC/A.U. : N/A
Examiner : N/A

Docket No. : 54950/DBP/A394
Customer No. : 23363

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Post Office Box 7068
Pasadena, CA 91109-7068
April 29, 2005

Commissioner:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including an Abstract of the Disclosure, on a separate page, is attached following page 6 of this paper.

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the title as follows:

-- DEVICE FOR ARRANGING AT LEAST TWO BANDS AROUND ONE OR MORE PACKETS --

After the title please add the following:

-- CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a National Phase Patent Application of International Application Number PCT/NL2003/000751, filed on October 31, 2003, which claims priority of Netherlands Patent Application Number 1021798, filed on October 31, 2002.--.

On page 4, "In the drawings", starting at line 15, and ending at line 26, please amend as follows:

-- In the drawing:

figure 1 shows a perspective view of a first embodiment of the device according to the invention;

figure 2 shows a perspective view of a second embodiment of the device according to the invention;

figure 3 shows a perspective detail view of the band clamping and guiding means of the embodiment shown in figure 2;

figures 4, including 4A-4D, and 5, including 5A-5E, show perspective views of the band clamping and guiding means of the embodiment shown in figure 2 during a possible embodiment of the method according to the invention.

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) Device for arranging at least two bands around one or more packets, substantially consisting of a frame, a lying conveyor belt supported by the frame for moving forward the packets, band clamping and guiding means which move transversely of the conveyor belt away from and toward each other and which are connected to associated supply reels for the strapping band, welding means for welding together the bands which have been moved toward each other, characterized in that a first group of band clamping and guiding means has a first pair of jaws for a first band type and a second group has a second pair of jaws for a second band type, which groups are arranged one above the other.
2. (Original) Device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that one of the bands is of the film type.
3. (Currently amended) Device as claimed in ~~either of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the second band is wider than the first band.
4. (Currently amended) Device as claimed in ~~any of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that each jaw of the first pair of jaws has a clamping surface which runs transversely relative to the direction of movement and which co-

acts with a counter-surface of an intermediate body carried by one of the jaws, wherein at least one of the surfaces is provided with tooth-like protrusions lying in a direction opposite to the pulling direction.

5. (Currently amended) Device as claimed in ~~any of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that each jaw of the second pair of jaws has a guide surface which runs transversely relative to the direction of movement and which co-acts in each case with a motor-driven supply roll.

6. (Currently amended) Device as claimed in ~~any of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that one of the band types is provided with a label.

7. (Original) Method for arranging at least two bands one above the other around one or more packets, wherein each band, which is formed by fastening together at their outer ends two bands unrolled in each case from a supply roll, is trained in a U-shape round the or each packet, whereupon each pair of band portions extending around the or each packet in a U-shape are pressed toward each other along the object, adhered to each other and severed such that a band again extends between each pair of supply rolls, characterized in that the type of the at least two bands is chosen according to the height on the one or more packets, and that for each band each of the two band portions pressed toward each other is fixedly clamped, moved toward each other, welded together and separated.

8. (Original) Method as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that each band of the bands to be arranged one above the

Docket No. 54950/DBP/A394
Amdt date April 29, 2005

other is fixedly clamped, welded together and separated simultaneously and in one movement.

9. (Original) Method as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that each band of the bands to be arranged one above the other is successively sought, fixedly clamped, welded together and separated.

Docket No. 54950/DBP/A394
Amdt date April 29, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-9 remain in the application. Claims 3-6 have been amended.

The title was amended.

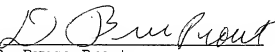
The brief description of drawings was amended to correct the figure description of Figures 4A-4D and 5A-5E.

The introduction was amended to cross reference the International and Netherlands applications on which the application is based.

An Abstract of the Disclosure, on a separate page, is attached hereto.

It is respectfully requested that the foregoing preliminary amendment be entered prior to examination.

Respectfully submitted,
CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By 
D. Bruce Prout
Reg. No. 20,958
626/795-9900

DBP/aam
AAM PAS620800.1-*04/29/05 2:15 PM

ABSTRACT

Device for arranging at least two bands around one or more packets, substantially consisting of a frame, a lying conveyor belt supported by the frame for moving forward the packets, band
5 clamping and guiding means which move transversely of the conveyor belt away from and toward each other and which are connected to associated supply reels for the strapping band, welding means for welding together the bands which have been moved toward each other, wherein a first group of band clamping
10 and guiding means has a first pair of jaws for a first band type, and a second group has a second pair of jaws for a second band type, which groups are arranged one above the other. In this manner the one or more packets can be strapped with two or more bands of a specific type, for instance subject to the
15 required firmness, via one passage through the device according to the invention.

DBP



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPL NO.	FILING OR 371 (c) DATE	ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY. DOCKET NO	DRAWINGS	TOT CLMS	IND CLMS
10/533,348	02/17/2006	3651	1030	54950/DBP/A394	8	9	2

CONFIRMATION NO. 8999

RECEIVED

FILING RECEIPT

MAY 25 2006



OC000000018870587

Christie, Parker & Hale, LLP

Date Mailed: 05/22/2006

Receipt is acknowledged of this regular Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please mail to the Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria Va 22313-1450. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

Applicant(s)

✓ Marinus Lambertus Wilhelmus Van De Sande, 's Hertogenbosch, NETHERLANDS;

Power of Attorney: The patent practitioners associated with Customer Number 23363 ✓

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a 371 of PCT/NL03/00751 10/31/2003 ✓

Foreign Applications

Acceptable Request to Retrieve Priority Application Received?

NETHERLANDS 1021798 10/31/2002 ✓

Projected Publication Date: 08/24/2006

NO
A394:
CASE # 54950 ACTION _____
REMINDER _____ DUE DATE _____
DEADLINE _____

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

Title

arranging bands
Device for ~~applying~~ at least two ~~straps~~ around a ~~packet~~ *one or more packets*

Preliminary Class

198

PROTECTING YOUR INVENTION OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

Since the rights granted by a U.S. patent extend only throughout the territory of the United States and have no effect in a foreign country, an inventor who wishes patent protection in another country must apply for a patent in a specific country or in regional patent offices. Applicants may wish to consider the filing of an international application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). An international (PCT) application generally has the same effect as a regular national patent application in each PCT-member country. The PCT process **simplifies** the filing of patent applications on the same invention in member countries, but **does not result** in a grant of "an international patent" and does not eliminate the need of applicants to file additional documents and fees in countries where patent protection is desired.

Almost every country has its own patent law, and a person desiring a patent in a particular country must make an application for patent in that country in accordance with its particular laws. Since the laws of many countries differ in various respects from the patent law of the United States, applicants are advised to seek guidance from specific foreign countries to ensure that patent rights are not lost prematurely.

Applicants also are advised that in the case of inventions made in the United States, the Director of the USPTO must issue a license before applicants can apply for a patent in a foreign country. The filing of a U.S. patent application serves as a request for a foreign filing license. The application's filing receipt contains further information and guidance as to the status of applicant's license for foreign filing.

Applicants may wish to consult the USPTO booklet, "General Information Concerning Patents" (specifically, the section entitled "Treaties and Foreign Patents") for more information on timeframes and deadlines for filing foreign patent applications. The guide is available either by contacting the USPTO Contact Center at 800-786-9199, or it can be viewed on the USPTO website at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/doc/general/index.html>.

For information on preventing theft of your intellectual property (patents, trademarks and copyrights), you may wish to consult the U.S. Government website, <http://www.stopfakes.gov>. Part of a Department of Commerce initiative, this website includes self-help "toolkits" giving innovators guidance on how to protect intellectual property in specific countries such as China, Korea and Mexico. For questions regarding patent enforcement issues, applicants may call the U.S. Government hotline at 1-866-999-HALT (1-866-999-4158).

LICENSE FOR FOREIGN FILING UNDER**Title 35, United States Code, Section 184****Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 5.11 & 5.15****GRANTED**

The applicant has been granted a license under 35 U.S.C. 184, if the phrase "IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED" followed by a date appears on this form. Such licenses are issued in all applications where the conditions for issuance of a license have been met, regardless of whether or not a license may be required as set forth in 37 CFR 5.15. The scope and limitations of this license are set forth in 37 CFR 5.15(a) unless an earlier license has been issued under 37 CFR 5.15(b). The license is subject to revocation upon written notification. The date indicated is the effective date of the license, unless an earlier license of similar scope has been granted under 37 CFR 5.13 or 5.14.

This license is to be retained by the licensee and may be used at any time on or after the effective date thereof unless it is revoked. This license is automatically transferred to any related applications(s) filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d). This license is not retroactive.

The grant of a license does not in any way lessen the responsibility of a licensee for the security of the subject

matter as imposed by any Government contract or the provisions of existing laws relating to espionage and the national security or the export of technical data. Licensees should apprise themselves of current regulations especially with respect to certain countries, of other agencies, particularly the Office of Defense Trade Controls, Department of State (with respect to Arms, Munitions and Implements of War (22 CFR 121-128)); the Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce (15 CFR parts 730-774); the Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of Treasury (31 CFR Parts 500+) and the Department of Energy.

NOT GRANTED

No license under 35 U.S.C. 184 has been granted at this time, if the phrase "IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED" DOES NOT appear on this form. Applicant may still petition for a license under 37 CFR 5.12, if a license is desired before the expiration of 6 months from the filing date of the application. If 6 months has lapsed from the filing date of this application and the licensee has not received any indication of a secrecy order under 35 U.S.C. 181, the licensee may foreign file the application pursuant to 37 CFR 5.15(b).

DBP



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
 United States Patent and Trademark Office
 Address COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
 www.uspto.gov

APPL NO.	FILING OR 371(c) DATE	ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY.DOCKET NO	TOT CLMS	IND CLMS
10/533,348	02/17/2006	3721	1030	54950/DBP/A394	9	2

23363
 CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP
 PO BOX 7068
 PASADENA, CA 91109-7068

RECEIVED

APR 02 2007

Christie, Parker & Hale, LLP.

CONFIRMATION NO. 8999

CORRECTED FILING RECEIPT



OC000000023175306

Date Mailed: 03/29/2007

Receipt is acknowledged of this regular Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please mail to the Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria Va 22313-1450. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

Applicant(s)

Marinus Lambertus Wilhelmus Van De Sande, 's Hertogenbosch, NETHERLANDS;

Power of Attorney: The patent practitioners associated with Customer Number 23363.

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a 371 of PCT/NL03/00751 10/31/2003

Foreign Applications

NETHERLANDS 1021798 10/31/2002

A394:
 54950
 CASE # _____ ACTION _____
 REMINDER _____ DUE DATE _____
 DEADLINE _____

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 03/29/2007

The country code and number of your priority application, to be used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is **US10/533,348**

Projected Publication Date: Not Applicable

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

Title

Device for arranging at least two bands around one or more ~~packet~~ **packets**

Preliminary Class

053

PROTECTING YOUR INVENTION OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

Since the rights granted by a U.S. patent extend only throughout the territory of the United States and have no effect in a foreign country, an inventor who wishes patent protection in another country must apply for a patent in a specific country or in regional patent offices. Applicants may wish to consider the filing of an international application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). An international (PCT) application generally has the same effect as a regular national patent application in each PCT-member country. The PCT process **simplifies** the filing of patent applications on the same invention in member countries, but **does not result** in a grant of "an international patent" and does not eliminate the need of applicants to file additional documents and fees in countries where patent protection is desired.

Almost every country has its own patent law, and a person desiring a patent in a particular country must make an application for patent in that country in accordance with its particular laws. Since the laws of many countries differ in various respects from the patent law of the United States, applicants are advised to seek guidance from specific foreign countries to ensure that patent rights are not lost prematurely.

Applicants also are advised that in the case of inventions made in the United States, the Director of the USPTO must issue a license before applicants can apply for a patent in a foreign country. The filing of a U.S. patent application serves as a request for a foreign filing license. The application's filing receipt contains further information and guidance as to the status of applicant's license for foreign filing.

Applicants may wish to consult the USPTO booklet, "General Information Concerning Patents" (specifically, the section entitled "Treaties and Foreign Patents") for more information on timeframes and deadlines for filing foreign patent applications. The guide is available either by contacting the USPTO Contact Center at 800-786-9199, or it can be viewed on the USPTO website at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/doc/general/index.html>.

For information on preventing theft of your intellectual property (patents, trademarks and copyrights), you may wish to consult the U.S. Government website, <http://www.stopfakes.gov>. Part of a Department of Commerce initiative, this website includes self-help "toolkits" giving innovators guidance on how to protect intellectual property in specific countries such as China, Korea and Mexico. For questions regarding patent enforcement issues, applicants may call the U.S. Government hotline at 1-866-999-HALT (1-866-999-4158).

LICENSE FOR FOREIGN FILING UNDER

Title 35, United States Code, Section 184

Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 5.11 & 5.15

GRANTED

The applicant has been granted a license under 35 U.S.C. 184, if the phrase "IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED" followed by a date appears on this form. Such licenses are issued in all applications where the conditions for issuance of a license have been met, regardless of whether or not a license may be required as set forth in 37 CFR 5.15. The scope and limitations of this license are set forth in 37 CFR 5.15(a) unless an earlier license has been issued under 37 CFR 5.15(b). The license is subject to revocation upon written notification. The date indicated is the effective date of the license, unless an earlier license of similar scope has been granted under 37 CFR 5.13 or 5.14.

This license is to be retained by the licensee and may be used at any time on or after the effective date thereof unless it is revoked. This license is automatically transferred to any related application(s) filed under 37 CFR

1.53(d). This license is not retroactive.

The grant of a license does not in any way lessen the responsibility of a licensee for the security of the subject matter as imposed by any Government contract or the provisions of existing laws relating to espionage and the national security or the export of technical data. Licensees should apprise themselves of current regulations especially with respect to certain countries, of other agencies, particularly the Office of Defense Trade Controls, Department of State (with respect to Arms, Munitions and Implements of War (22 CFR 121-128)); the Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce (15 CFR parts 730-774); the Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of Treasury (31 CFR Parts 500+) and the Department of Energy.

NOT GRANTED

No license under 35 U.S.C. 184 has been granted at this time, if the phrase "IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED" DOES NOT appear on this form. Applicant may still petition for a license under 37 CFR 5.12, if a license is desired before the expiration of 6 months from the filing date of the application. If 6 months has lapsed from the filing date of this application and the licensee has not received any indication of a secrecy order under 35 U.S.C. 181, the licensee may foreign file the application pursuant to 37 CFR 5.15(b).